

REMARKS

The present application is a Continuation of U.S. Application Serial Number 09/862,649, filed May 22, 2001, the specification of which is incorporated herein by reference. Claims 65-91 are currently pending in this application.

Applicant previously canceled claims 1-30 and added claims 31-50 in the Preliminary Amendment dated March 26, 2004. Applicant's Supplemental Preliminary Amendment dated September 3, 2004 amended claims 31, 33-35, 38, 40-43, 45, and 47-49; canceled claims 32, 36-37, 39, 44, 46, and 50; and added claims 51-64.

A Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was mailed to Applicant on February 28, 2005 indicating that the amendment document filed on September 3, 2004 was considered to be non-compliant as it did not meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121. In response, Applicant has canceled claims 31, 33-35, 38, 40-43, 45, 47-49, and 51-64, and added claims 65-91.

Claims 65-91 correspond to claims 31, 33-35, 38, 40-43, 45, 47-49 and 51-64 presented in Applicant's Supplemental Preliminary Amendment dated September 3, 2004. Applicant respectfully submits that because claims 65-91 are of the same type and number as canceled claims 31, 33-35, 38, 40-43, 45, 47-49, and 51-64 (i.e., seven independent claims, twenty seven total claims), no additional claim fee is necessary.

Claim amendments in this supplemental preliminary amendment have not been made in view of any art nor has a first office action been received in this case. No new matter has been introduced into claims 65-91.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 659-9340.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 28th day of March, 2005.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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By their Representatives,

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